

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A method of decorating an article of glazed tableware comprising the steps of:

- (a) mixing a thermochromic water-based ink with a first coating material to form a first coating mixture;**
- (b) applying the first coating mixture directly onto substantially the whole outer surface of the tableware article by spraying;**
- (c) once the first coating mixture is set, applying a second transparent coating material over the first coating mixture;**

wherein the second coating material is substantially dishwasher proof.

Claims 2 and 3. (Cancelled)

Claim 4. (Previously Amended) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the first coating material is transparent.

Claim 5. (Previously Amended) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the first and/or second coating materials comprise lacquers.

Claim 6. (Previously Amended) A method according to Claim 5 wherein the first coating material comprises a water based lacquer.

Claim 7. (Canceled)

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim [7] 5 wherein the second coating material comprises a two-part epoxy fortified acrylic resin, including an activator and a thinner.

Claim 9. (Previously Amended) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the proportion of ink in the mixture is within the range 5-25% by volume.

Claim 10. (Previously Amended) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the mixture and/or second coating material are cured following application onto the article.

Claim 11. (Original) A method according to Claim 10 wherein the curing commences with a period in an infra red shortwave drier followed by a heat cure.

Claim 12. (Previously Amended) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the curing includes a heat cure comprising a lower temperature first period, followed by a higher temperature second period.

Claim 13. (Original) A method according to Claim 12 wherein for the mixture, the first period lasts between one and two minutes at 35°C to 65°C, with the second period lasting eight to twelve minutes at 140 to 220°C.

Claim 14. (Previously Amended) A method according to Claim 1 wherein for the second coating the first period lasts between eight and twelve minutes at 35 to 65°C, with the second period lasting twenty five to thirty minutes at 110 to 165°C.

Claim 15. (Previously Amended) A method according to Claim 1 wherein a decoration is provided on the article beneath the mixture such that when the thermochromic ink is at least translucent, said decoration is visible.

Claim 16. (Previously Amended) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the mixture comprises a plurality of thermochromic inks with different colour change temperatures.

Claim 17. (Original) A method according to Claim 16 wherein the inks are different colours.

Claim 18. (Previously Amended) A method according to Claim 1 where said second coating material is applied to the article by spraying.

Claim 19. (Original) A method according to Claim 18 wherein the mixture and/or second coating material are applied to the article by electrostatic spraying.

Claim 20. (Original) A method according to Claim 19 wherein an electrostatic thinner is added to the mixture and/or second coating prior to spraying.

Claim 21. (Previously Amended) A method according to Claim 18 wherein the mixture and the second coating material are sprayed to a thickness of between 12 and 24 microns.

Claims 22 and 23. (Canceled)

Claim 24. (Previously Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein an electrostatic thinner is added to at least one of said mixture and said second coating material prior to spraying.